

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

A NEW drawing sheet containing FIGs. 7 and 8 is filed herewith to properly identify element number 301 in FIG. 7. No new matter has been added. Please replace the previous drawing sheet containing figures 7 and 8 with the NEW drawing sheet filed herewith.

REMARKS

At the outset, the Examiner is thanked for the thorough review and consideration of the pending application. The Office Action dated September 25, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully reviewed.

Claims 1-4, and 9-13 are rejected. Claims 1-16 remain pending in this application with claims 5-8 and 14-16 having previously been withdrawn.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that the amended Fig. 7 has been disapproved because the addition of the element 301 to the original Fig. 7 raises the issue of new matter and nowhere in the original disclosure does it disclose the support for the metal pattern 301 surrounding the seal 310, as shown in the amended FIG. 7.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to FIG. 7 is supported by Applicants' specification as filed, and does not raise the issue of new matter. Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendment.

Applicants note that FIG. 9 of the drawings shows a metal pattern 301 completely overlapping each of the two visible sides of the sealant 310 at two edges of an LCD panel substrate. FIG. 9 does not explicitly show an overlap of the metal pattern with the two other sides of sealant 310, as those sides are not visible in FIG. 9. Paragraph [0054] and [0057] of the specification as filed, describing "A method for manufacturing the IPS mode LCD device using the UV-hardening sealant according to the second embodiment of the present invention" states, "Also, the metal pattern 301 is formed of the same material as a gate or data line of the IPS mode thin film transistor array, and is formed below the UV-hardening sealant 310 for reflecting the UV ray" and "... the metal pattern 301 are formed of the same metal, and the metal pattern 301 corresponds to the UV-hardening sealant 310.". On the other hand, while the metal layer is not explicitly shown in FIG. 7 as filed, the sealant is clearly shown in FIG. 7 (as filed) adjacent to four edges of the second substrate. Applicants submit that the amendment to FIG. 7 to show the metal pattern 301 by dotting line has the same structure the sealant 310 using hidden lines on the sides not visible in FIG. 9, in view of at least the portions of specification cited above, does not constitute new matter. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request entry of the Amendment to the Drawings provided with this response.

In the Office Action, the Examiner indicates that Brief Description of the Drawings states “FIG. 7 is a layout illustrating an IPS mode LCD device using a UV-hardening sealant according to the first embodiment of the present invention”, “FIG. 8 is a cross sectional view illustrating an IPS mode LCD device taken along line III-III’ of FIG. 7 using a UV-hardening sealant according to the first embodiment of the present invention” and Figs 7-8 are consistent with each other and with the Brief Description of the Drawings, whereas the Brief Description of the Drawings regarding Fig 9 is not consistent with Fig 7.

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment to a Brief Description of the Drawings [0040] in specification and a FIG. 7 supported by Applicants' specification as filed. Amended FIG. 7 is a layout illustrating an IPS mode LCD device according to the present invention. However, FIG. 7 inclusively illustrates both FIGs 8 and 9, that is, FIG. 7 is not limited to any one of FIGs 8 and 9. Accordingly, amended FIG. 7 is not limited to the first embodiment of the present invention. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the drawings and specification be withdrawn.

In the Office Action, claims 1-4 and 9-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph as allegedly containing subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to reasonably convey to one skilled in the relevant art that the inventor(s), at the time the application was filed, had possession of the claimed invention. In particular, the Office Action points to the limitation “wherein the metal pattern completely overlaps the UV-hardening sealant and is formed at four edges of the first substrate” recited in the claims 1 and 9. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejection and request reconsideration. Applicants submit that support for the claims can be found in FIG. 9, and paragraphs [0053]-[0057] of Applicants' specification as filed.

As discussed above, Applicants' specification indicates that “Also, the metal pattern 301 is formed of the same material as a gate or data line of the IPS mode thin film transistor array, and is formed below the UV-hardening sealant 310 for reflecting the UV ray” in paragraph [0054] and “the metal pattern 301 corresponds to the UV -hardening sealant 310” in paragraph [0057]. Applicant additionally notes that the sealant 310 is shown as disposed on the first substrate at all four sides of the periphery of the active area of the first substrate in FIG. 7. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claims 1 and 9 are fully described as required in 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and Applicant’s submit that rejection to the claims 1-4 and 9-13 be

withdrawn.

The Specification is objected to as allegedly failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter and for reasons as noted at page 4 of the Office Action. Applicants submit that discussed above, at least FIGs. 7 and 9 of Applicants' drawings, and the text of paragraphs [0053]-[0057] of the Applicants' specification as filed fully describe and provide antecedent bases for the claimed subject matter. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the Specification be withdrawn.

The drawings are objected to under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) as allegedly not showing every feature of the claims and for the reasons as noted at page 3 of the Office Action. FIG. 7 has been amended to explicitly show the relationship between the metal pattern showed by dotting line and the sealant on the second substrate as described above. Accordingly, Applicants request that the objection to the drawings be withdrawn.

Applicants believe the foregoing amendments and remarks place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited. Applicants believe the foregoing amendments place the application in condition for allowance and early, favorable action is respectfully solicited.

If for any reason the Examiner finds the application other than in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned attorney at (202) 496-7500 to discuss the steps necessary for placing the application in condition for allowance. All correspondence should continue to be sent to the below-listed address.

If these papers are not considered timely filed by the Patent and Trademark Office, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, and any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 for any necessary extension of time, or any other fees required to complete the filing of this response, may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0911.

Application No.: 10/742,919
Amdt. dated December 21, 2007
Reply to Office Action dated September 25, 2007

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Please credit any overpayment to deposit Account No. 50-0911.

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